

Communities Against Terrorism

Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Parks and Public Lands

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

- Individuals or groups who:
 - Are unable to provide a satisfactory reason for being at the location.
 - Possess tools or weapons that are inappropriate for the property.
 - Have racial or hate tattoos or distribute literature about racist, hate, environmental, or animal rights issues.
 - Are attempting to impersonate public lands personnel by acquiring items with park emblems (e.g., uniforms, badges/passes, vehicles).
 - Discard usable and/or new clothing items and tools.
 - Possess animal and/or plant breeding records.
 - Block roads and cause disruptions.
 - Conduct covert gatherings/meetings or post guards or lookouts.
 - Appear to be avoiding security and law enforcement.
 - Conduct surveillance of structures located on public lands (e.g., dams, power plants).
 - May be illegally crossing an international border.
- Evidence of something being buried, extensive firearms training, or groups conducting military-style exercises.
- Creation of a compound-like structure.
- Conversations about attacks related to racial/hate/environmental/animal rights issues.
- Incidents, including vandalism or arson, that target research facilities; logging sites, vehicles, and equipment; landfills or excavation sites; utility lines or cell phone towers; off-road, recreational, or sport utility vehicles; park structures or employees; park construction projects, including structures, roads, and trails; or fur trappers and/or animal traps.
- Incidents that appear to be hate-related or banners, vehicles, or graffiti bearing symbols or information about terrorist/violent extremist groups.
- Discovery of dangerous items; e.g., explosives, arson devices, incendiaries, weapons, or chemicals.
- Gunfire that is inappropriate for the setting.
- Spiking of trees.
- Thefts of potentially dangerous products; e.g., insecticides, pesticides, sprayers, ammonium nitrate fertilizer.

It is important to remember that just because someone's speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different, it does not mean that he or she is suspicious.

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contact information or logo**

What Should I Do?

Be aware of:

- Materials and equipment that should be on-site.
- Rules and regulations for the property.
- Delivery vehicles and staff who are routinely on the property.
- Individuals working in the park.

Be part of the solution.

- Watch for people and actions that are out of place.
- Talk to visitors, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses.
- Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles.
- Alert campground hosts of items to watch for.
- Install and monitor security cameras around the property, if appropriate.
- Secure potentially hazardous products.
- Report any missing or stolen fuel, vehicles, or other equipment to law enforcement authorities.
- Report vehicles abandoned on the property to law enforcement authorities.
- **If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.**
- **Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.**

Preventing terrorism is a community effort. By learning what to look for, **you** can make a positive contribution in the fight against terrorism. The **partnership between the community and law enforcement** is essential to the success of anti-terrorism efforts.

Some of the activities, taken individually, could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate. The activities outlined on this handout are by no means all-inclusive but have been compiled from a review of terrorist events over several years.